

Subject: Macdoel General Store, 41517 Highway 97, Macdoel
Regional Board Case No. 1TSI112

Notice of Proposed No Further Action related to petroleum discharges.
Comment period ends February 4, 2004.

Problem description:

Macdoel General Store is located along Highway 97 in Macdoel, near the Oregon border in Siskiyou County. Four petroleum underground storage tanks were removed from the subject site on December 28, 1994. At the time of removal, a Siskiyou County Health Department representative collected five soil samples from the UST excavation pit. Custody of the samples was given to the responsible party (RP) for shipping to a laboratory. The RP was reluctant to have the samples analyzed, and ultimately had one of the five samples analyzed. The health department representative noted during UST removal that obvious petroleum contamination existed, including a very strong petroleum odor emanating from excavated soil. Laboratory analysis of the soil sample resulted in the detection of TPH-gas @ 1,900 ppm, TPH-diesel @ 120 ppm and BTEX @ <0.50, 5.6, 3.6, 50 ppm respectively.

Siskiyou County referred the site to the Regional Board on April 13, 1995. After numerous Regional Board staff requests for site investigation were not complied with, enforcement action brought the case before the Regional Board at a public hearing. At the Regional Board's request, a Time Schedule Order was issued to the RP. This order contained a requirement for conducting a site investigation, which was complied with.

Actions Completed:

Following excavation of the UST's, the excavated soil was stockpiled onsite and the pit was left open for two years. Due to safety concerns raised by the SCHD, the soil was placed back in the pit in December 1996.

On April 26, 2002, a report of findings was submitted that described a subsurface investigation conducted on March 20, 2002. The investigation consisted of drilling two soil borings through the center of the former UST locations, collecting soil samples from the borings and analyzing them for petroleum contamination. A groundwater sample was also collected from the onsite domestic well.

Soil samples were collected in the borings at depths between 9.5 and 10.5 feet below ground surface (bgs). Results from the laboratory analysis were below the detection limits for each petroleum constituent. The soil borings were advanced to about 15 and 18 feet bgs and no groundwater was encountered in either boring. Collection of the water sample was from a spigot connected to the onsite well. Analysis of the water also resulted in below detection levels for petroleum contaminants of concern.

Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MtBE) Status: MtBE was not detected in soil or groundwater samples collected at from the site.

Proposed Action:

Site is proposed for no further action.

Unless significant comments are received or new information is presented, Regional Water Board staff plan to concur with no further action upon conclusion of the comment period. Please contact Cody Walker by telephone at (707) 576-2642 or e-mail at walkc@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov for all issues concerning Macdoel General Store.